

SPIDER-MAN

MARVEL COMICS GROUP™

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

30¢ 160
SEPT
02457



the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®



Declare your Independence...

Earn
your
own

PRIZES
OR CASH

the Easy
J.S.C.A.
Way!



Send me my first order of 12 Greeting Card Boxes to sell as checked below
Check one only: ☐ Christmas Cards ☐ All Occasion Cards

Name _____

Address _____ Apt. No. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Parent's Signature _____

Hold Over Here + Don't Cut! Do Seal (Paste, Staple or Scotch Tape) + No Stamp Needed!

FIRST CLASS
PERMIT NO. 3105
SPRINGFIELD
MASSACHUSETTS

Business Reply Mail
NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IF MAILED IN U.S.

Postage Will Be Paid By
Junior Sales Club of America

Dept. 76MC-6
SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS 01101

No limit to the Number of
PRIZES or CASH
you can win!
JUST A FEW SHOWN HERE



Join the Winning '76ers at J.S.C.A.

Enroll now as a member of the Junior Sales Club of America. We'll send you a Free Prize Catalog, Membership Card, full selling information plus your first order of 12 boxes of lovely All Occasion Greeting Cards or sensational new Christmas Cards. As each order is sold, you may reorder additional cards until you've met your prize requirements. Cards are sent on credit. YOU PAY NOTHING IN ADVANCE.

Each box of 18 fine quality greeting cards cost just \$2.00. That is about 11¢ a card. Think of all the people you know — relatives, friends, neighbors — who'll want to buy these handsome cards by the box. Many J.S.C.A. members have earned a prize in only a few hours. IF YOU WISH, YOU MAY TAKE AS YOUR PRIZE 70¢ FOR EACH BOX YOU SELL.

Just fill out and mail the coupon-reply card to receive your first order of greeting cards. You may take up to 30 days to sell them. If after that time, you have any boxes unsold, promptly return them prepaid by parcel post, keeping 70¢ for each box you've sold. Get the prizes you want the fast, easy J.S.C.A. way. Act now!

Join now — it costs you nothing

Junior Sales Club of America
SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS 01101

FILL IN COUPON-REPLY CARD • CUT & MAIL TODAY • NO STAMP NEEDED

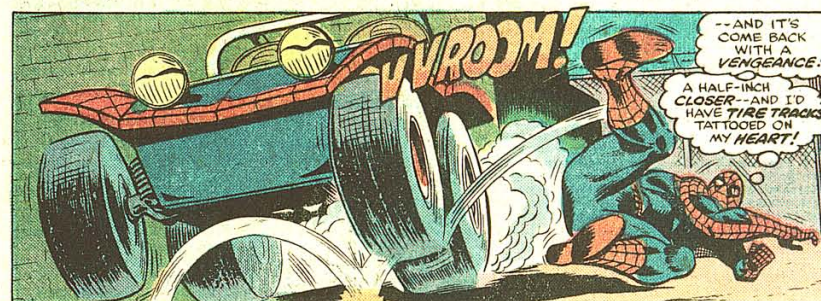
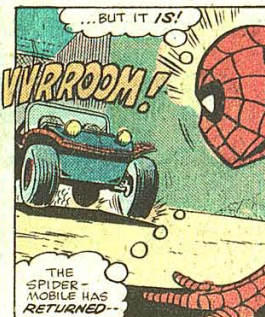
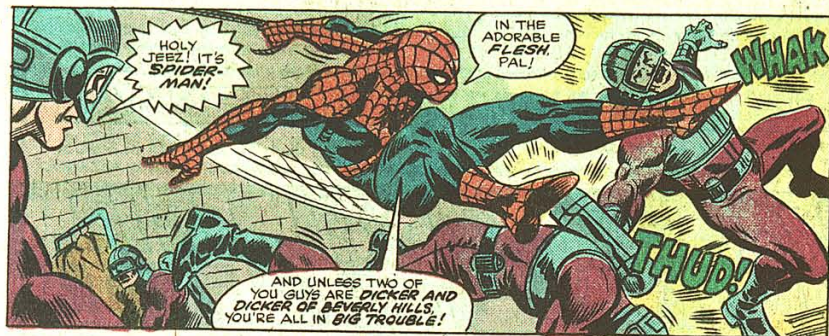
While attending a demonstration in radiology, student PETER PARKER was bitten by a spider which had accidentally been exposed to RADIOACTIVE RAYS. Through a miracle of science, Peter soon found that he had GAINED the insect's powers...and had, in effect, become a human spider...

Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN™

LEN WEIN [ROSS ANDRU] MIKE ESPOSITO [GLYNIS WEIN] JOE ROSEN [IRV FORBUSH]
WRITER/EDITOR ILLUSTRATOR EMBELLISHER COLORIST LETTERER HEAD MECHANIC



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THE WORLD FAMOUS NEW AMERICAN PHYSIQUE CHEST DEVELOPER

A FABULOUSLY SUCCESSFUL TOTAL SYSTEM FOR NEW BIG CHEST INCREASE



GUARANTEED YOU MUST INCREASE CHEST MEASUREMENTS 2 TO 4 INCHES IN JUST 14 DAYS OR YOUR MONEY BACK!

Why is this approach to muscle building world famous? We are perhaps the only successful bodybuilders who concentrate on a big chest first and offer the complete total system in a complete kit. **NOTHING ELSE TO BUY!**

Results are not uniform and vary with user. You increase at your own pace.

For the man or boy whom fate denied a beautiful, strong body, help is here! How? Our new easy system in complete packaged kit with our world famous rectoral chest developer lets you attain enormous chest measurements fast! Then at your own convenience, add a total of 6, 8, 10, 12, 16, 20 inches on your chest, back and shoulders.

Research has shown the chest is the dynamic focal point, the power center of the physique, around which your entire bodybuilding program can be structured. If your chest is small or scrawny, body development can be slow, almost never ending. When your chest becomes big, other muscles can be built up super-fast! A big chest first! Always!

Research shows people usually judge a guy by the size of his chest. Why? Look around. Do guys parade about town in swim suits? No! Everybody wears clothes. While your other muscles can be hidden under clothing, a big chest stands out at first glance. Your stomach, thigh and leg muscles can be concealed under pants. Arm muscles can be hidden under sleeves. But a big chest is an attention-getter. It can indicate virility, dynamism and courage.

ONLY \$7.95 NOTHING ELSE TO BUY!

Guys with big chests command respect. A big chest warns: "Don't tangle with me!" Girls love to be seen with guys who look like winners.

We are so absolutely confident you will regard our total system as your fantastic success story that if you do not see 2 to 4 new inches in just 14 days, return valuable kit for full, immediate refund. Why is our kit famous? It is our belief this renowned method is the world's most effective bodybuilding plan because it lets you attain a big chest first. Then at your own convenience, add a total of 6, 8, 10, 12, 16, 20 inches on chest, back and shoulders. Fantastic!

BIG CHEST FIRST! OTHER BODY MUSCLES LATER!

What does our exclusive, chest building kit include? Our copyrighted, illustrated method-course to increase chest measurements fast, plus an engineered pectoral chest building mechanical aid, sold for many, many years the world over.

FREE! chesting vice-grip course

NEW AMERICAN PHYSIQUE, GPO Box 1694-MV, Boston, Mass. 02105

Kindly rush me your famous chest kit. I enclose \$7.95 plus 50¢ handling on your full, immediate money back guarantee. (Sorry, No COD)

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

BUILD MIGHTY MUSCLES!
New Herculean approach!
Herculean-ease, Details: 25¢
Box 896- LV, Boston, Mass. 02103

WANT TO STAND TALLER FASTER?
2 to 7 inches in a few weeks!
A Discovery! All ages. 100% Guaranteed!
Rush 25¢ to: New Height,
Box 2298- AV, Boston, Mass. 02107

MASCULINITY & VIRILITY
versus frailty & impotence
Info: Send 25¢
Male, Box 6063- VL, Boston, Ma. 02209



HEY KIDS!!! Get the Glove that looks and works just like Spider-man's. It shoots water just like Spider-man shoots his web! It's easy, just load your glove with water and shoot a thick spray UP TO 25 FEET AWAY, just by squeezing the palm.

You get an Action Water Glove for the right hand plus a Special Reloaded Bottle so you can carry refills with you. Two sizes are available, small [under age 7] and regular [age 7 & over]....ALL FOR ONLY \$3.75 plus 75c for postage & handling. Iowa residents add 3% sales tax.

U.S. & CANADA ORDERS ONLY
Allow 4 - 6 weeks for delivery.

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P. O. Box 492
Dubuque, Iowa 52001

Please send me (indicate quantity): _____ Regular
_____ Small at \$3.75 ea. & 75c ea. for postage & handling. (Check or Money Order only)

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____

when I planned to retire before fifty

this is the business that made it possible

a true story by John B. Haikley



Starting with borrowed money, in just eight years I gained financial security, sold out at a profit and retired.

"Not until I was forty did I make up my mind that I was going to retire before ten years had passed. I knew I couldn't do it on a salary, no matter how good. I knew I couldn't do it working for others. It was perfectly obvious to me that I had to start a business of my own. But that posed a problem. What kind of business? Most of my money was tied up. Temporarily I was broke. But, when I found the business I wanted I was able to start it for a small amount of borrowed money.

"To pyramid this investment into retirement in less than ten years seems like magic, but in my opinion any man in good health who has the same ambition and drive that motivated me, could achieve such a goal. Let me give you a little history.

"I finished high school at the age of 18 and got a job as a shipping clerk. My next job was butchering at a plant that processed boneless beef. Couldn't see much future there. Next, I got a job as a Greyhound Bus Driver. The money was good. The work was pleasant, but I couldn't see it as leading to retirement. Finally I took the plunge and went into business for myself.

"I managed to raise enough money with my savings to invest in a combination motel, restaurant, grocery, and service station. It didn't take long to get my eyes opened. In order to keep that business going my wife and I worked from dawn to dusk, 20 hours a day, seven days a week. Putting in all those hours didn't match my idea of independence and it gave me no time for my favorite sport—golf! Finally we both agreed that I should look for something else.

"I found it. Not right away. I investigated a lot of businesses offered as franchises. I felt that I wanted the guidance of an experienced company—wanted to have the benefit of the plans that had brought success to others, plus the benefit of running my own business under an established name that had national recognition.

"Most of the franchises offered were too costly for me. Temporarily all my capital was frozen in the motel. But I found that the Duraclean franchise

offered me exactly what I had been looking for.

"I could start for a small amount. (Today, less than \$1500 starts a Duraclean dealership.) I could work it as a one-man business to start. No salaries to pay. I could operate from my home. No office or shop or other overhead. For transportation, I could use the trunk of my car. (I bought the truck later, out of profits.) And best of all, there was no ceiling on my earnings. I could build a business as big as my ambition and energy dictated. I could put on as many men as I needed to cover any volume. I could make a profit on every man working for me. And I could build little by little, or as fast as I wished.

"So, I started. I took the wonderful training furnished by the company. When I was ready I followed the simple plan outlined in the training. During the first period I did all the service work myself. By doing it myself, I could make much more per hour than I had ever made on a salary. Later, I would hire men, train them, pay them well, and still make an hourly profit on their time that made my idea of retirement possible—I had joined the country club and now I could play golf whenever I wished.

"What is this wonderful business? It's Duraclean. And, what is Duraclean? It's an improved, space-age process for cleaning upholstered furniture, rugs, and tacked down carpets. It not only cleans but it enlivens and sparkles up the colors. It does not wear down the fiber or drive part of the dirt into the base of the rug as machine scrubbing of carpeting does. Instead it lifts out the dirt by means of an absorbent dry foam.

"Furniture dealers and department stores refer their customers to the Duraclean Specialist. Insurance men say Duraclean can save them money on fire claims. Hotels, motels, specialty shops and big stores make annual contracts for keeping their carpets and furniture

fresh and clean. One Duraclean Specialist signed a contract for over \$40,000 a year for just one hotel.

"Well, that's the business I was able to start with such a small investment. That's the business I built up over a period of eight years. And, that's the business I sold out at a substantial profit before I was fifty."

Would you like to taste the freedom and independence enjoyed by Mr. Haikley? You can. Let us send you the facts. Mail the coupon, and you'll receive all the details, absolutely without obligation. No salesman will ever call on you. When you receive our illustrated booklet, you'll learn how we show you STEP BY STEP how to get customers; and how to have your customers get you more customers from their recommendations.

With no obligation, we'll mail you a 24-page brochure explaining the business. Then you, and you alone, in the privacy of your home, can decide. Don't delay. Get the facts before your location is taken by someone else. Mail the coupon, now.

DURACLEAN INTERNATIONAL
6218 Duraclean Bldg., Deerfield, Ill. 60015

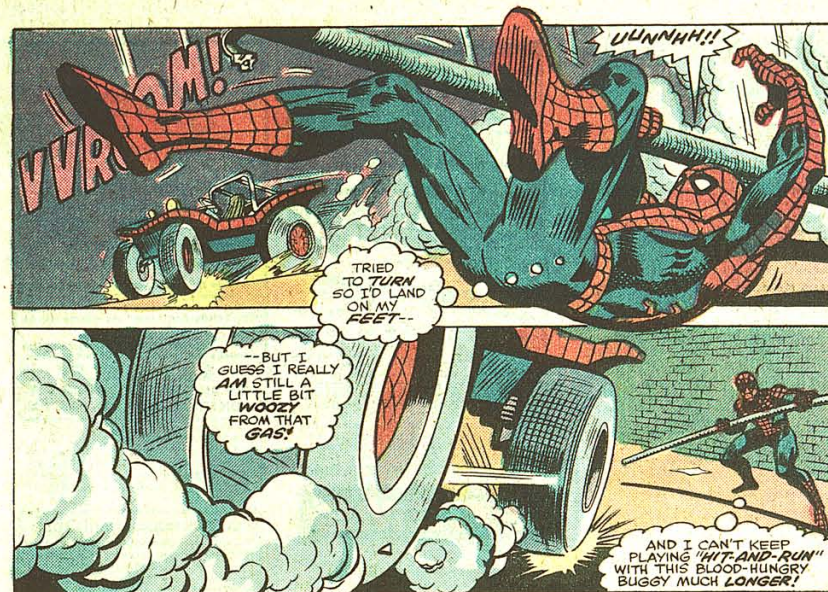
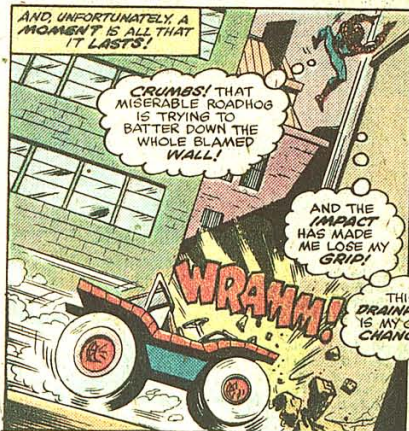
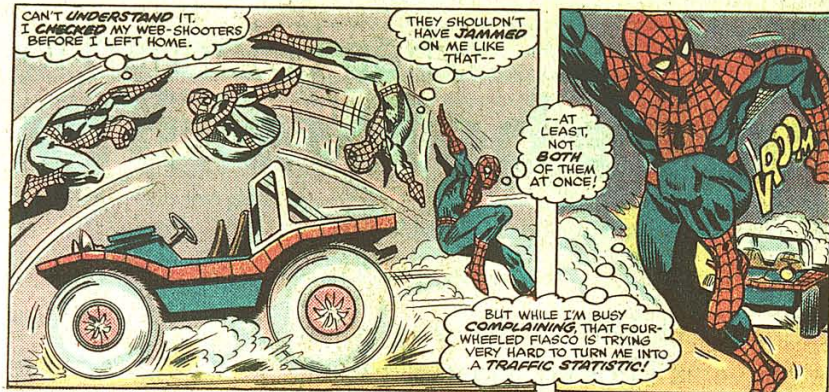


send name for full facts

DURACLEAN INTERNATIONAL
6218 Duraclean Building
Deerfield, Illinois 60015

WITHOUT OBLIGATION mail letter and 24-page illustrated booklet explaining how I can increase my income and family security with a Duraclean Dealership. No salesman will call.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____



CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE



WEBHEAD--
BITE YOUR
TONGUE!

AS USUAL,
IT'S OUT OF
THE FRYING
PAN AND
SMACK INTO
THE MICRO-
WAVE
OVEN!



BUT MAYBE IF I'M LUCKY,
THE BOYS-IN-BLUE DIDN'T...

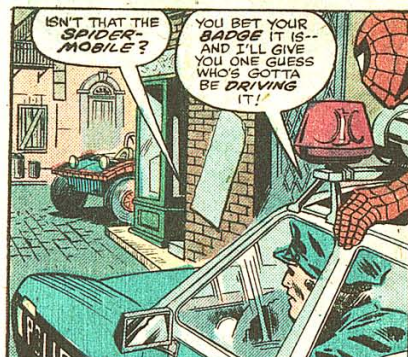
HEAR
SOMETHING
ON THE ROOF,
HANK?

NAH--
PROBABLY
JUST THE
LOCAL KIDS
THROWIN'
BOTTLES
AGAIN!



BOTTLES,
MY EYE!
TAKE A
LOOK AT
THAT!

HOLY
HOPPIN'
HARRIET!



ISN'T THAT THE
SPIDER-
MOBILE?

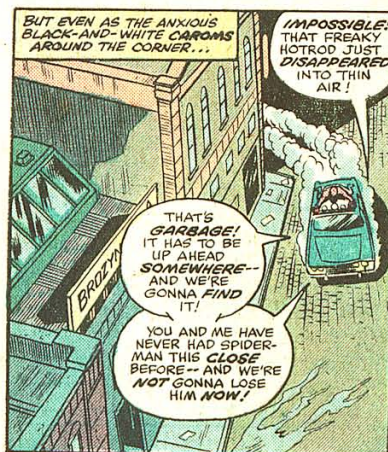
YOU BET YOUR
BADGE IT IS--
AND I'LL GIVE
YOU ONE GUESS
WHO'S GOTTA
BE DRIVING
IT!



BLAST HE MUST'VE
SEEN US! C'MON,
MARTY-- LET'S ROLL!

I REFUSE TO
BELIEVE ANY
OF THIS.

IT'LL MEAN A
PROMOTION FOR
SURE IF WE CAN
NAB THAT
LOONY-TUNE!

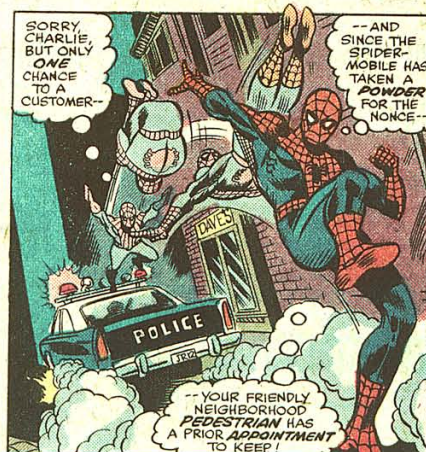


BUT EVEN AS THE ANXIOUS
BLACK-AND-WHITE CAROMS
AROUND THE CORNER...

IMPOSSIBLE!
THAT FREAKY
HOTROD JUST
DISAPPEARED
INTO THIN
AIR!

THAT'S
GARBAGE!
IT HAS TO BE
UP AHEAD
SOMEWHERE--
AND WE'RE
GONNA FIND
IT!

YOU AND ME HAVE
NEVER HAD SPIDER-
MAN THIS CLOSE
BEFORE-- AND WE'RE
NOT GONNA LOSE
HIM NOW!

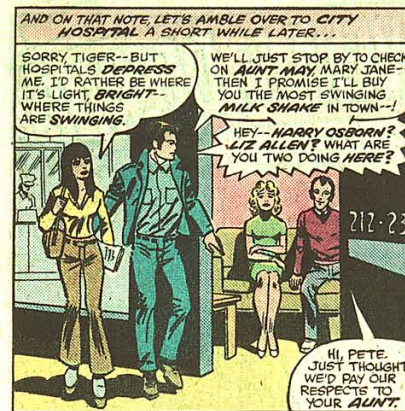


SORRY, CHARLIE,
BUT ONLY
ONE
CHANCE
TO A CUSTOMER--

-- AND
SINCE THE
SPIDER-
MOBILE HAS
TAKEN A
POWDER
FOR THE
NONCE--

-- YOUR FRIENDLY
NEIGHBORHOOD
PEDESTRIAN HAS
A PRIOR APPOINTMENT
TO KEEP!

10



AND ON THAT NOTE, LET'S AMBLE OVER TO CITY
HOSPITAL A SHORT WHILE LATER...

SORRY TIGER-- BUT
HOSPITALS DEPRESS
ME. I'D RATHER BE WHERE
IT'S LIGHT, BRIGHT--
WHERE THINGS
ARE SWINGING.

WE'LL JUST STOP BY TO CHECK
ON AUNT MAY, MARY JANE--
THEN I PROMISE I'LL BUY
YOU THE MOST SWINGING
MILK SHAKE IN TOWN--!

HEY-- HARRY OSBORN?
LIZ ALLEN? WHAT ARE
YOU TWO DOING HERE?

HI, PETE.
JUST THOUGHT
WE'D PAY OUR
RESPECTS TO
YOUR AUNT.



HOPE YOU'RE FEELING
BETTER, MRS. PARKER.
HERE-- THESE MOVIE
MAGAZINES MIGHT
HELP TO PASS THE
TIME.

ISN'T THAT NICE OF MARY
JANE, AUNT MAY? NOW YOU
CAN FOLLOW ALL THE LATEST
DIRT ON TONY DRAKON
AND DAWN.

THAT'S
SWEET,
PETER--
DEAR--

--BUT
I'M REALLY
MUCH MORE
INTERESTED IN
DONNIE AND
MARIE OSBORN.



AND WHAT ABOUT YOU CHILDREN? WELL? SPEAK UP
ARE YOU BOTH GETTING ALONG
THESE DAYS?

I'M AFRAID
YOUR NEPHEW
STILL HAS A
FEW CORNERS.
MRS. PARKER--

BUT MJ IS
WORKING AT
ROUNDING
THEM OFF.
AUNT MAY.

WELL, IT'S
ABOUT TIME,
I MUST SAY.



AND SPEAKING
OF TIME PETE--
I'M AFRAID LIZ
AND I HAVE GOTTA
BE GOING.

WE'RE GLAD TO SEE
YOU LOOKING SO
WELL, MRS. PARKER--
AFTER YOUR ORDEAL
WITH DR. OCTOPUS.*

YEAH, PRETTY LADY--
I GUESS MARY JANE
AND I OUGHT TO
MAKE A GRACEFUL
EXIT AS WELL.

YOU
TAKE IT
EASY ON
THE ICE
HOCKEY
PRACTICE
NOW,
HEAR?

OH, PETE--
YOU SPOIL
ALL MY FUN.

*AS SHOWN THESE THREE ISSUES
PAST, RIGHT?-- LIVELY LEN.



HEY, IT WAS REALLY
GOOD SEEING
YOU TWO AGAIN.
WHY DON'T THE
FOUR OF US
DOUBLE SOME
EVENING?

YOU'VE GOT
YOURSELF A
DATE,
HANDSOME.

HARRY OSBORN AND... LIZ
ALLEN? IT'S A CHALLENGER
WORLD THAN I THOUGHT.

TAKE CARE YOU GUYS.
SEE YOU SOON.



AND WHILE PETER PARKER AND MARY JANE WATSON
SET OFF IN SEARCH OF THE PENULTIMATE MILK
SHAKE--

--WHY DON'T THE REST
OF US TURN OUR ATTENTION
TOWARD THE
OFFICE OF DAILY BUGLE
PUBLISHER J. JONAH
JAMESON--

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CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

THE BIGGEST ROCK EVENT OF THE DECADE!

HERE'S
SOME OF THE
GREAT SONGS:
HIGH WIRE
SQUARE BOY
SPIDER-MAN
GWENDOLYN
DR. OCTOPUS
AND MANY MORE!

HI, ROCK FANS! THIS IS OL'
SPIDER-MAN HIMSELF TALKIN'!
ATCHA, I'M HERE TO TELL YA ABOUT
THE LATEST HIT OF THE DISCO
WORLD: "REFLECTIONS OF A
ROCK SUPERHERO" FEATURING
SUPER SONGS ABOUT YOUR FRIENDLY
NEIGHBORHOOD YOU-KNOW-WHO!
DON'T DARE MISS IT!

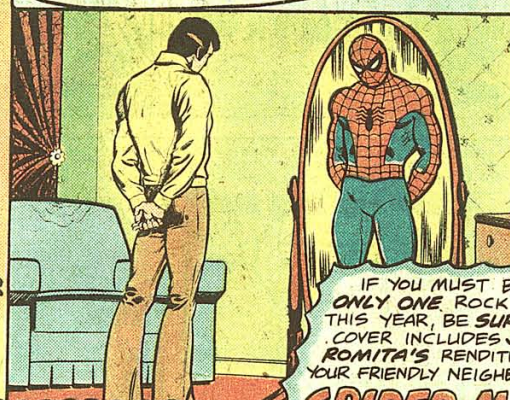
REFLECTIONS
A SUPERHERO



SPECIAL PRICE FOR
MARVEL FANS:

\$5.98

WE'LL PAY THE
POSTAGE!



IF YOU MUST BUY
ONLY ONE ROCK ALBUM
THIS YEAR, BE SURE THE
COVER INCLUDES JOHN
ROMITA'S RENDITION OF
YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD

SPIDER-MAN!

**BLACK-LIGHT
POSTERS!**

**TAIN
AMERICA**



ALL
POSTERS
ONLY: **\$3.50**
EACH. INCLUDES
POSTAGE &
HANDLING.

FELT POSTERS WHICH GLOW
IN THE DARK! (WITH THE
AID OF A BLACK LIGHT LAMP.)

SUPERHERO MERCHANDISE, P.O. BOX 777, DOVER, N.J. 07801 ATT. DEPT. 6A
I CAN HARDLY WAIT TO GET ALL THE GREAT GOODIES I'VE ORDERED, SO ENCLOSED IS
\$ FOR THE FOLLOWING (INCLUDES PDS & HAND. ALLOW 4 WEEKS DELIVERY.):

- ☐ SPIDER-MAN ALBUM \$5.98 EACH. ☐ SPIDER-MAN POSTER \$3.50 EACH
☐ CAPT. AMERICA POSTER \$3.50 ☐ GODZILLA POSTER \$3.50 ☐ TIGER POSTER \$3.50

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

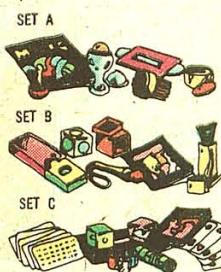
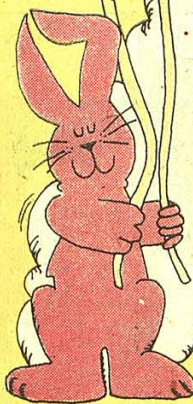
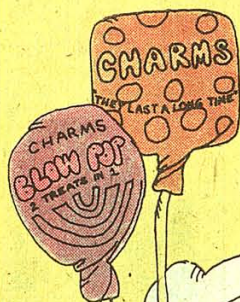
CANADIAN RESIDENTS ADD 50%. MAKE ALL ORDERS PAYABLE IN U.S. FUNDS.

VISIT THE SUPERHERO SHOP, 6 CENTER GROVE RD. & RT. 10, RANDOLPH, N.J. (201) 361-6327

SPECIAL MAGIC SET FROM OFFER CHARMS



**\$6.00 VALUE
ONLY \$3.00**
PLUS 5 CHARMS POPE WRAPPERS



- SET A: Ball/Vase Mystery, Spike/Coin Trick, Viz Escape, Mysterious Bottle, Book of 102 Tricks and others
SET B: X-Ray Box, Snap It Mystery, Coin Vanisher, Dollar Bill Trick, Book of 101 Tricks and others
SET C: Mystery Calculator, Wonder Tube, Coin Vanisher, Disappearing Cards, Magic/Stunt Book and others

MAGIC, G.P.O. Box 2025, N.Y., N.Y. 10001

SEND NAME AND ADDRESS TO:
MAGIC, G.P.O. BOX 2025, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10001
Indicate set number A, B or C you are ordering.
Enclose \$3.00 cash or check plus any 5 CHARMS
pop wrappers. Allow 4 weeks for delivery.

SET A ☐ SET B ☐ SET C ☐

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____
STATE _____ ZIP _____

OFFER EXPIRES DECEMBER 31, 1976



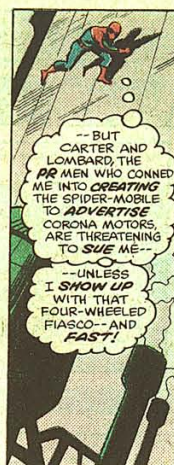
IT'S A BIG TOWN BUT THE SPIDER-MOBILE HAS GOT TO BE OUT THERE SOMEWHERE--

--AND MY NAME IS SLUDGE UNLESS I FIND IT!



NOT ONLY IS IT RUNNING AROUND ALL BY ITS LONE-SOME--

--FURTHER BEWILDERING MY ALREADY-ROTTEN REPUTATION--

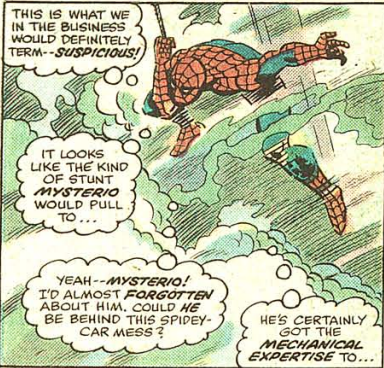


--BUT CARTER AND LOMBARD, THE PR MEN WHO CONNED ME INTO CREATING THE SPIDER-MOBILE TO ADVERTISE CORONA MOTORS, ARE THREATENING TO SUE ME--

--UNLESS I SHOW UP WITH THAT FOUR-WHEELED FIASCO-- AND FAST!



MY BEST SET HEY-- THAT SET KILLING THAT ALLEY WAY--!



THIS IS WHAT WE IN THE BUSINESS WOULD DEFINITELY TERM-- SUSPICIOUS!

IT LOOKS LIKE THE KIND OF STUNT MYSTERO WOULD PULL TO...

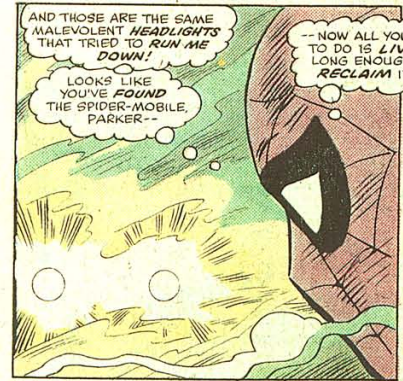
YEAH--MYSTERO! I'D ALMOST FORGOTTEN ABOUT HIM, COULD HE BE BEHIND THIS SPIDEY-CAR MESS?

HE'S CERTAINLY GOT THE MECHANICAL EXPERTISE TO...



WOW...MY HEAD! EVERYTHING'S GETTING FUZZY AGAIN!

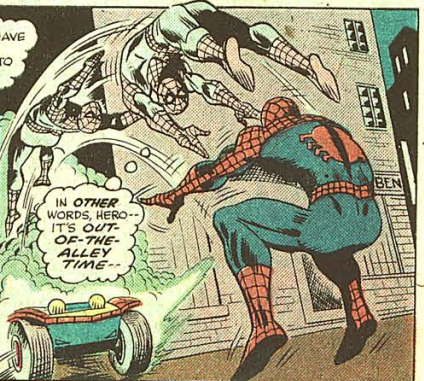
THIS IS NO MIST! IT'S THE SAME GAS I GOT SAPPED WITH EARLIER TONIGHT!



AND THOSE ARE THE SAME MALEVOLENT HEADLIGHTS THAT TRIED TO RUN ME DOWN!

LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE FOUND THE SPIDER-MOBILE, PARKER--

--NOW ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO RECLAIM IT!



IN OTHER WORDS, HERO-- IT'S OUT-OF-THE-ALLEY TIME!



--AND UP TO WHERE THE SPIDER-MOBILE CAN'T TOUCH ME!



GO AHEAD AND GRIND YOUR GEAR, YOU BATTY BUGGY!

I'M JUST GONNA SIT SAFELY UP HERE UNTIL YOU RUN OUT OF GAS AND...

VROOM! VROOM!



HOLY COW! IT'S CHARGING RIGHT UP THE WALL--



--WHICH MEANS I'M GETTING OUT OF HERE-- PRONTO!



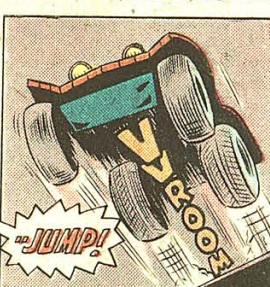
OKAY WISE GUY-- LET'S SEE YOU BRIDGE THIS GAP!

SKREEECH!



NO! THE WAY IT'S REVVING ITS ENGINE-- ALMOST AS IF IT WERE GETTING READY TO--

VRUUM! VRUUM!



JUMP!



WELL, HERE WE GO AGAIN! MY ONLY HOPE IS TO OUTRUN THAT BLASTED BUGGY--

WHUMP!



--WHICH IS NOT EXACTLY GOING TO BE THE EASIEST THING I'VE EVER DONE!



I CAN FEEL MY FEET SLIPPING AS I RUN--

--WHICH MEANS I'VE LOST MY WALL-CRAWLING POWERS AGAIN!



ALL I CAN DO NOW IS KEEP MOVING--



THE SPIDER'S WEB

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Dear Len,

Oh, I'm so proud of myself. If you remember my LOC concerning the first appearance of the mysterious derelict, Mrs. Mullaney's little boy offered the guess of Doc Ock. And for once, my guess was right. Len, you sure know how to make a guy feel good.

But Ockomments are for next ish. This letter's reserved for SPIDER-MAN #156 and the wedding. The most interesting part of the story to me was easily the introduction, with all the guests preparing for the occasion. Perhaps it's because I recall my own recent wedding, but I think rather that the characters involved are so strongly defined that a long-time reader could do nothing but revel in their individualistic attitudes. Pete's little escapade with Mrs. Muggins and his following inability to tie his tie were typically Parker, and therefore, typically funny. Jonah's humble assessment of his own appearance likewise brought a chuckle from my lips, as did Aunt May's universal repetitiveness. Flash's concern for Harry, Liz remembrances, and the Robertsons' care all aroused the fine thought of people who love their friends. And finally, MJ's resolving Pete's tie dilemma and subsequent loving apologies in light of the thought of a wedding...well, all the characters were played with perfection, and done so in as little as one panel each. Very, very well done, Len.

It's a known fact that in the Marvel Universe, a wedding is not allowed to be completed without a hitch, and the problem invented for this issue's wedding was better than most. I was disappointed by Spider's ruthless defeat of the Mirage, since destroying the chandelier and having it fall on top of his foe was not exactly the most compassionate thing for Spider to do. Yet, Mirage's basic plot, to rob four weddings at once in a hall such as Morgan's of Malverne (modeled after Terrace In the Park?), was a great one. Also, I was happy to see that the interfering party was not an old foe seeking revenge. All in all, it was a good one.

Dean Mullaney
168 Colon Avenue
Staten Island, NY 10308

Thanks for the words of praise, Dean. We never get tired of hearing them. (Around here, we don't have all that much else to look forward to.)

Seriously though, Len reluctantly agrees with your assessment of the way Spider handled the Mirage. Although Len knew that the Mirage would be protected from permanent damage from the falling chandelier by the metallic shell of integrated circuitry he wore, the ol' Wall-crawler couldn't have known until after the fact, when he checked the Mirage's unconscious body (as he did on page 27 panel 4). Unless, of course, you're willing to believe that our hero's Spider-senses alerted him to the Mirage's protecting shell, and thus let us off the hook.

Oh, you're not, huh?

(Oh, by the way, Dean. Congratulations on joining the ranks of the happily wedded. May your morningstar never fade.)

Dear Len, Ross, Mike, and Bullpen:

When one thinks of the SPIDER-MAN series, all sorts of thoughts run through your head. There are the colorful villains, the interesting supporting characters, the sub-plots, and the many little things that add up to make this book what it is. This series, more than any other, seems to have been the one most consistent with the words *Marvel Magic*. Don't ask me why this series has been singled out, but that is probably the reason why Spider is the best-selling and most popular comic character

in the world. (That last statement can really sink into you.) If this says something about the state of comics and comic readers today, so be it. I'm sure not complaining about having Spider lead the whole pack.

Anyway, SPIDER-MAN #156 had all of those little bits and pieces of magic which have made this series what it is, and the whole thing was Spidey to the core. Len and Ross and Mike can certainly be proud of their efforts. It was nice to see Mrs. Muggins stick her ugly face up in the beginning of the issue. Whatever happened to that other character that was introduced around the time that Peter found his new apartment, that fashion model woman? Haven't seen her in a while. I'm also pleased with the way that you managed to work all of the supporting characters in. I was afraid that you had forgotten about Liz Allen. What's this I hear about her and Harry Osborn?

Most impressive was the fact that no matter how many colorful and exciting villains we've had in the past, you can still come up with more. Since we never got the whole scoop on Mirage's origin, I hope that this means he'll be slated for a return appearance at sometime in the immediate future. I liked the way he called Spidey "Insect." And I'm also fond of the way that you've been managing to bring back those older villains, such as Doctor Octopus. Hopefully, Hammerhead also managed to make it out of the nuclear explosion at the end of #131 alive. I'm looking forward to another one of those gang-boss type stories with all of the hoodlums and everything. Don't disappoint me.

Larry Tewis
227 Fox Run
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Sure hope we didn't disappoint you, Larry. But, by now, you've seen all three installments of the latest Doc Ock/Hammerhead extravaganza, so let us know, huh?

As far as that fashion model woman (Gloria Grant...Gloria, to her friends) goes, she's joined our little cast of characters on a very permanent basis, and just wait'll you see how she fits into the picture as a whole. We guarantee it'll knock you clear out of your socks.

Oh, one last thing, Lar...what have you been hearing about Liz Allen and Harry Osborn?

Dear Marvel,

I always thought that Spider-Man's Spider-sense warned him of his enemies. But in issue #156, it warns him of Mrs. Muggins, his landlady. I don't think Spidey would consider her an enemy.

Do I get a no-prize?

Larry Stefanich
5776 North 79th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53218

Yes, you do, Larry—but not for the reason you think. We're giving you that coveted non-entity for giving us a chance to explain something that's needed clarification for ages; namely, Spider-Man's Spider-sense!

As near as we can figure it these days, the Spider-sense does not warn our hero of his enemies, it warns him of imminent danger! Since an unexpected attack by one of his awesome foes almost certainly qualifies as danger, the Spidey-sense tingles with a vengeance whenever one of them rears his ugly head, but the Spider-sense will tingle just as urgently when Spidey is about to be attacked by anyone, from the above-mentioned Mrs. Muggins to effervescent Aunt May.

Clear enough, Faithful One?
Good. Now explain it to us!

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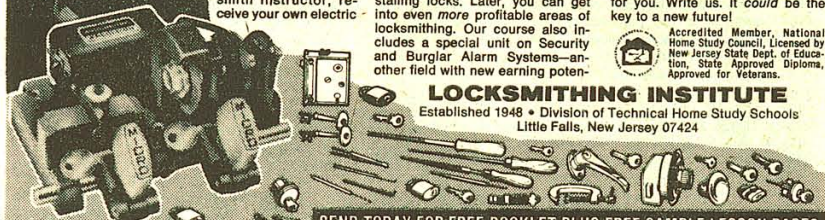
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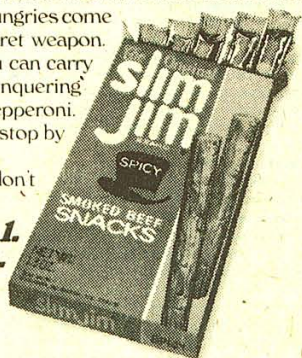
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--THAT IS, UNTIL I RUN OUT OF ROOM TO MOVE!

IT HAS TO BE ONE GIANT LEAP FOR SPIDER-KIND TO THAT BUILDING ACROSS THE STREET--



VVROOOM!

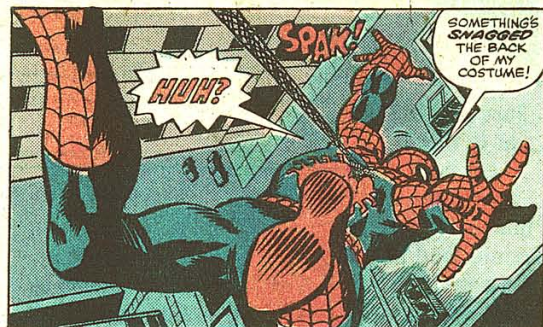
--BUT I DON'T EVEN WANT TO CONSIDER THE ALTERNATIVES IF I STAY HERE!



HAVE TO GIVE IT EVERYTHING I'VE GOT--PUSH MY MUSCLES TO THEIR LIMIT--AND TRUST MY WEBBING TO SAVE ME IF I FALL SHORT--



--EXCEPT, OF COURSE, THAT MY WEB-SHOOTERS AREN'T WORKING AGAIN!



HUH?

SOMETHING'S SWAGGED THE BACK OF MY COSTUME!



NO! THIS IS DOWN-RIGHT EMBARRASSING! THE SPIDER-MOBILE IS USING MY OWN SPECIALTIES AGAINST ME!

IT'S USING ITS BUILT-IN WEB-CANNONS TO SNAP ME UP LIKE A YO-YO--



--AND DEPOSIT ME LIKE AN OVER-STUFFED PURRLE BAG RIGHT IN ITS WAITING BACK SEAT!

IT'S FINALLY HAPPENED! I'VE BEEN HOIST WITH MY OWN PETARD!

WELL, YOU CAN'T SAY I DIDN'T GIVE IT THE OLD COLLEGE TRY!
THAT'S NOT MUCH OF AN EPITAPH--BUT I SUPPOSE IT'LL HAVE TO DO!



NOT THAT I COULDN'T SNAP THIS WEBBING WHENEVER I WANTED TO--

--BUT I THINK IT'S TIME I FINALLY MET WHOEVER IS BEHIND THIS CAPER!



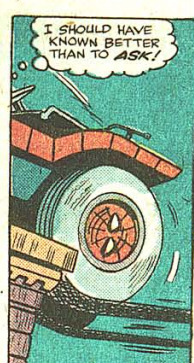
AND SINCE THE SPIDER-MOBILE OBVIOUSLY HAS SOME DESTINY IN MIND, I'LL JUST SIT SNUG AND LET IT TAKE ME TO THE MAN WHO'S CONTROLLING...HUH?

THWIP!

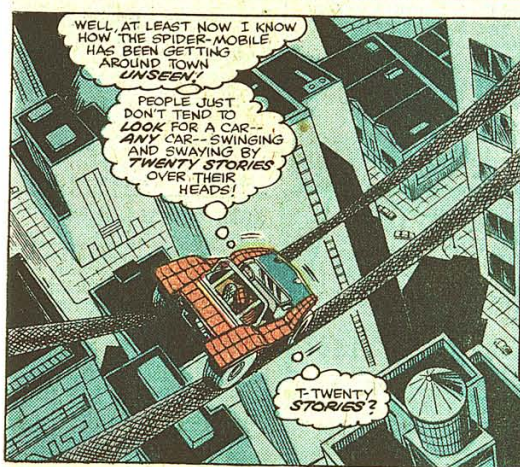
THWIP!

OH NO! THIS AUTOMOBILE CLUB OUTCAST ISN'T SERIOUSLY PLANNING TO DO WHAT I THINK IT'S GONNA DO...

...IS IT?



I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN BETTER THAN TO ASK!



WELL, AT LEAST NOW I KNOW HOW THE SPIDER-MOBILE HAS BEEN GETTING AROUND TOWN UNSEEN!

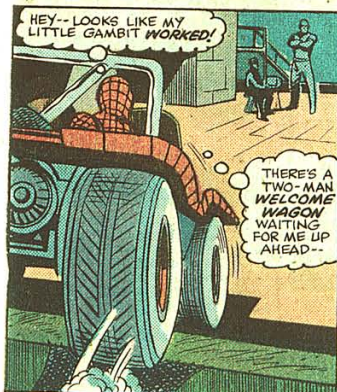
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HEY--LOOKS LIKE MY LITTLE GAMBIT WORKED!

THERE'S A TWO-MAN WELCOME WAGON WAITING FOR ME UP AHEAD--



--AND ONE OF THEM LOOKS UNCOMFORTABLY FAMILIAR! IF ONLY I COULD REMEMBER WHO...?

NO! AFTER ALL THIS TIME, IT COULDN'T BE--HIM!



OH, BUT IT COULD BE WALL-CRAWLER--AND IT IS!

I AM INDEED--THE TERRIBLE TINKERER!

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NOT AT ALL, MY BOY. THAT MASK I LEFT YOU HOLDING WAS MERELY A RUSE--

--A SIMPLE PLOY TO DETERMINE THAT I MUST SAY WORKED EXCEPTIONALLY WELL!

*IN SPIDER-MAN #2 (AND CONSIDER YOURSELF NO-PRIZED IF YOU CAN REALLY REMEMBER THAT FAR BACK. --NOT-SO-LIVELY LEN.



SINCE THEN, I'VE CHOSEN TO DESIGN SPECIAL WEAPONRY FOR OTHERS OF MY ilk TO USE, RATHER THAN RISK ANY DANGER TO MYSELF--THAT IS, OF COURSE, UNTIL NOW!

I'VE BEEN EMPLOYED BY SOMEONE WHO GREATLY WISHES TO RENEW HIS ACQUAINTANCE WITH YOU, MY BOY--AND IT IS MY JOB TO DELIVER YOU TO HIM.

TOY, TAKE CHARGE OF OUR GUEST, PLEASE.



TOY WILL TAKE GOOD CARE, SIR.

IMPRESSIVE, TINKY. GOT YOUR OWN TRAINED PET NOW, HUH?

I WOULD NOT UNDERESTIMATE TOY IF I WERE YOU, MY BOY.



THE TINKERER IS RIGHT. THIS GORILLA LOOKS LIKE HE COULD TEAR ME APART WITH HIS TOES!

GOT TO PUT HIM OFF-BALANCE BEFORE I MAKE MY MOVE!

WHAT DO YOU DO FOR AN ENCORE JOY-BOY--WAVE BYE-BYE?

HAH! LITTLE MAN IS JOKING WITH TOY.



YOU CAN ONLY JOKE WITH SOMEONE WHO HAS A MIND BOZO--AND YOU COULDN'T FIND YOURS IF IT WAS NAILED TO YOUR NOSE!

WHAT--? NOBODY INSULTS TOY, LITTLE MAN!



SHUT YOUR MOUTH OR TOY WILL RIP YOU IN HALF--

--LIKE THIS!!

KRIPPPPP!

THANKS FOR MAKING THINGS EASY FOR ME, BRIGHT-YES!



REMIC ME TO RETURN THE FAVOR SOMEDAY!

POW!

KROOM!



ARRHH! BROKEN BRICKS WILL NOT KEEP TOY PINNED DOWN FOR LONG--AND WHEN TOY GETS UP, HE WILL CRUSH YOU INTO PULP!

NOW THAT'S A TRULY DISGUSTING SENTIMENT IF EVER I'VE HEARD ONE. MUST COME FROM FEEDING YOU RAW MEAT THREE TIMES A... UH-OH!

DON'T GO AWAY, JUMBO! I'LL BE BACK AS SOON AS I ATTEND TO SOME UNFINISHED BUSINESS WITH YOUR BOSS!

VVROOM!



CONSISTENT, AREN'T YOU, TINKY? WHENEVER THE GAME STARTS TURNING AGAINST YOU, YOU CUT AND RUN!

WELL, THIS TIME YOU'RE NOT RIDING OFF IN A BLAZE OF GLORY!

THIS TIME YOU'RE STICKING AROUND FOR THE CLIMAX OF OUR LITTLE CHARADE!

SOMEDAY, MY BOY--

--YOUR OVERCONFIDENCE WILL BE THE DEATH OF YOU!

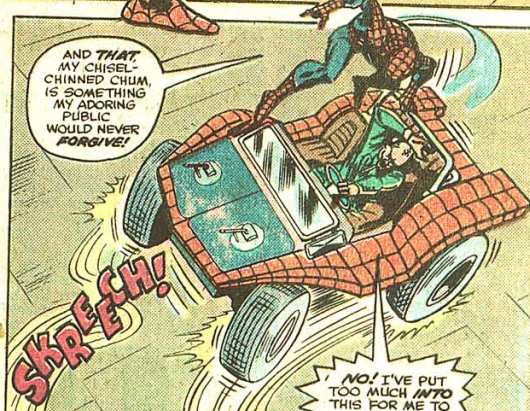
VVRUMM!

VVRUMM!



OH, SWELL, TINKY THREW THE SPIDER-MOBILE INTO REVERSE! I PUT THIS FOUR-WHEELED FORCE DOWN--

--AND TINKS WALL-CRAWLING TIRES ARE GONNA REARRANGE MY CLASSIC ROMAN PROFILE!



AND THAT MY CHISEL-CHINNED CHUM, IS SOMETHING MY ADORING PUBLIC WOULD NEVER FORGIVE!

SKREECH!

NO! I'VE PUT TOO MUCH INTO THIS FOR ME TO FAIL NOW!

A QUAFF OF QUIXOTIC QUIPS TO QUENCH YOUR QUAKES AND QUANDARIES!

STAN'S SOAPBOX

Hi, gang. Big news this month. It seems you just can't keep a good writer down. Remember when Rascally Roy Thomas gave up his editorship last year because he wanted to return to scriptwriting? Well, it looks like Marvel-ous Marv Wolfman got bitten by the same bug. Ol' Marv is swapping our editor's chair for a full-time writing schedule here at the bullpen. But, not to worry, chappies. With all the indescribable talent running rampant in the hallowed halls of Marvel, we're sure to come up with another winner! In fact, we've already practically decided who our editorial ramrod will be—but, just to keep you guessing, we'll announce the big decision next ish! We'll tell you this much, however—you'll flip when you learn the name! Anyway, how can we go wrong with the greatest group of artists, writers, and editors ever assembled! With a staff like ours, no wonder they call me Smilin' Stan! And, if all that still isn't enough, Larrupin' Larry Lieber, who gave his all for Atlas Comics not long ago (remember them?), has also come aboard to handle the

issues which we produce for an ever-growing army of Marvel fanatics in Great Britain. Wouldja believe they're on sale weekly over there; so we're bettin' that Larry'll be kinda busy. And, speaking of keeping busy, there's a great new book on sale, brought to you by the ever-lovin' Simon & Schuster book publishers, called **THE MIGHTY MARVEL SUPERHEROES FUN BOOK**. It sells for \$2.95, and it's a giant collection of puzzles, riddles, and games, all based on the stories and characters in Marvel Comics! Every page contains brand-new material, it'll keep you busy for hours, and you'll find it at bookstores, airports, and wherever strictly sensational books are sold. It's bound to be a treasured collectors item—after all, it's got the longest title this side of Yancy Street! And now, without any further ado (we used up all our ado last week), I'll turn you over to our Armadillos, with this one last admonishment—never tangle with a ten-ton truck, 'cause it might belong to Howard the Duck!

Excelsior!

Stan

ITEM! Rascally ROY THOMAS dropped into the Bullpen the other day, fresh from a sojourn to the ever-popular Pacific Coast. As he's wont to do, our favorite Editor Emeritus came back bursting with new ideas—not the least of which is a planned relocation to Los Angeles, where he'll join JACK "King" KIRBY and Madman MIKE ROYER as a premiere member of Southern California's Bullpen West. We said Roy was exploding with ideas—and one of those ideas is a brand-new Giant-Size title called "WHAT IF...?" Now, we've been given to hyperbole in the past, but this time it's safe to say that "WHAT IF...?" is one of the most exciting concepts to come down the pike since THE FANTASTIC FOUR. In fact, it is the FF, and SPIDER-MAN, and HULK, and—aw, nuts. Just wait till you see it, compadre. It's a knockout.

ITEM! Speaking about Bullpen West reminds us that we've managed to talk JACK KIRBY into lending his titanic touch to yet another of our cavoring characters—one the King designed 'way back when he and Smilin' STAN LEE

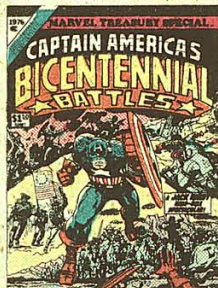
produced our fabulous Fantastic Four-some. We won't tell you which book Jack is going to take over (we have to have some secrets, don't we?), but we will tell you this—it's going to be King working with King. And if that piques your interest just a little, old friend, hang in there. We'll present a stainless steel, platinum-plated no-prize to the first Marvelite who guesses which of our heroes we mean. No peeking now, effendi!

ITEM! Now here's a newflash, also from Bullpen West, San Francisco division. Stainless STEVE ENGELHART, whom we all know and love as steady scripter of DOCTOR STRANGE, is moonlighting as a professional astrologer. It seems Steve has always had a passing interest in the stars, and his involvement with the adventures of the Master of the Mystic Arts brought that involvement to a climax. For the past few months, in between bouts on the AVENGERS and the aforementioned good Doctor, our boy on the Bay has been preparing horoscopes commercially. (Which begs the question—when

are we gonna get ours, amigo?) So, if you're ever up Frisco way and you're curious about your future—Stainless Steve is definitely the man to see. And that's the truth.

ITEM! Every Friday a gang from the Bullpen haunts the nearby Brillo Coffee House during lunch, and on various Fridays this menage includes almost everyone who strolls through the office—from Lively LEN WEIN to Dapper DON PERLIN, not to mention our powerhouse editorial staff and our boyish Editor Emeritus. Last Friday, while we were all waiting for the Brillo's famed Bunsen Burner Burger, we pulled out our advance copies of GIANT-SIZE CONAN, GIANT-SIZE TWO-IN-ONE, and (of course) GIANT-SIZE SPIDER-MAN. Well, friend, the burgers may have been rancid and rotten, but our novel-length mags made up for all the heartburn. We could tell you how wonderful they are, but we couldn't do them justice without stretching your capacious credibility. We promise you this, though—they're the best GIANT-SIZE books we're publishing this month! 'Nuff said!

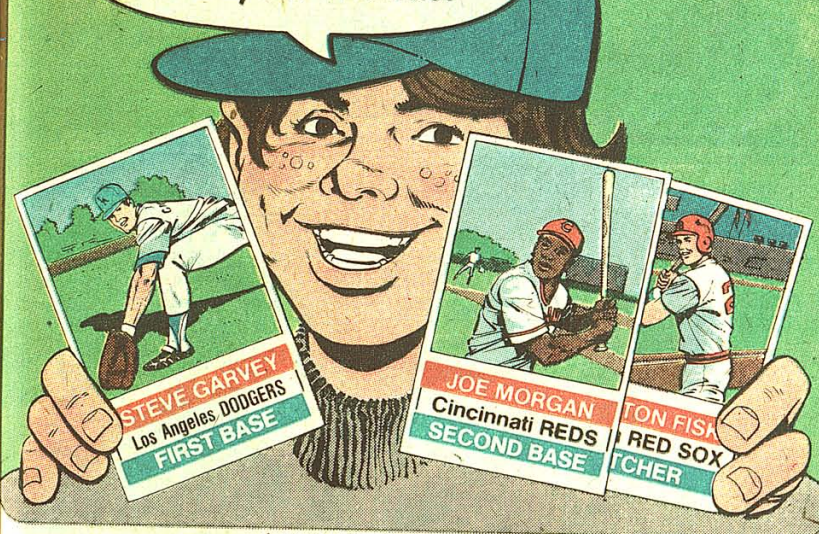
ITEM! Before we forget (or get squeezed out of space), we should mention that STEVE "Baby" GERBER has received permission to sell a HOWARD THE DUCK FOR PRESIDENT button to all your faithful feather-followers. It's available for \$1.00 plus 25¢ for postage and handling, and you don't write us, you write him, care of MAD GENIUS ASSOCIATES, Room 806, 850 Seventh Avenue, New York, NY, 10019.



And before we forget—don't miss our Super-Bicentennial Special, on sale in June! 'Nuff said! See you next month, True Believer.



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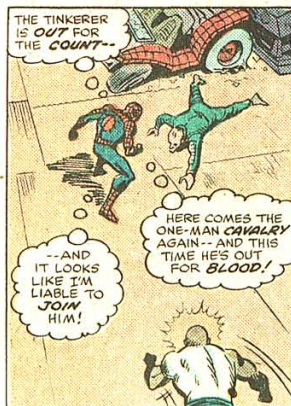
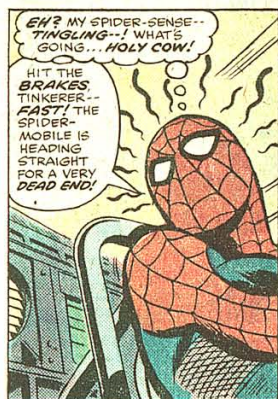
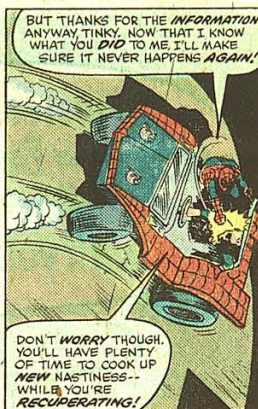
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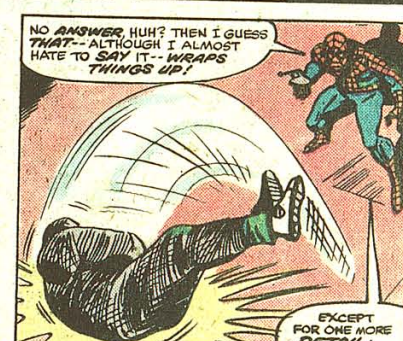


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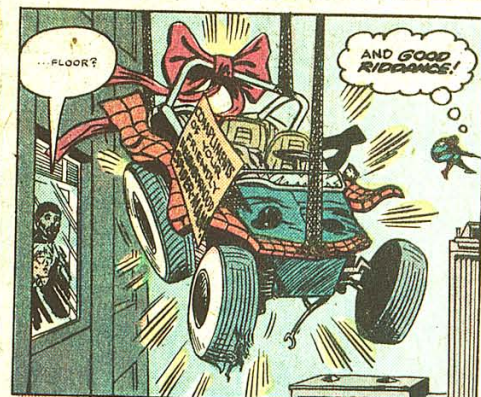
Offer expires August 31, 1976



30



AND, A SHORT TIME LATER, AT THE MADISON AVENUE OFFICES OF CARTER AND LOMBARDO...

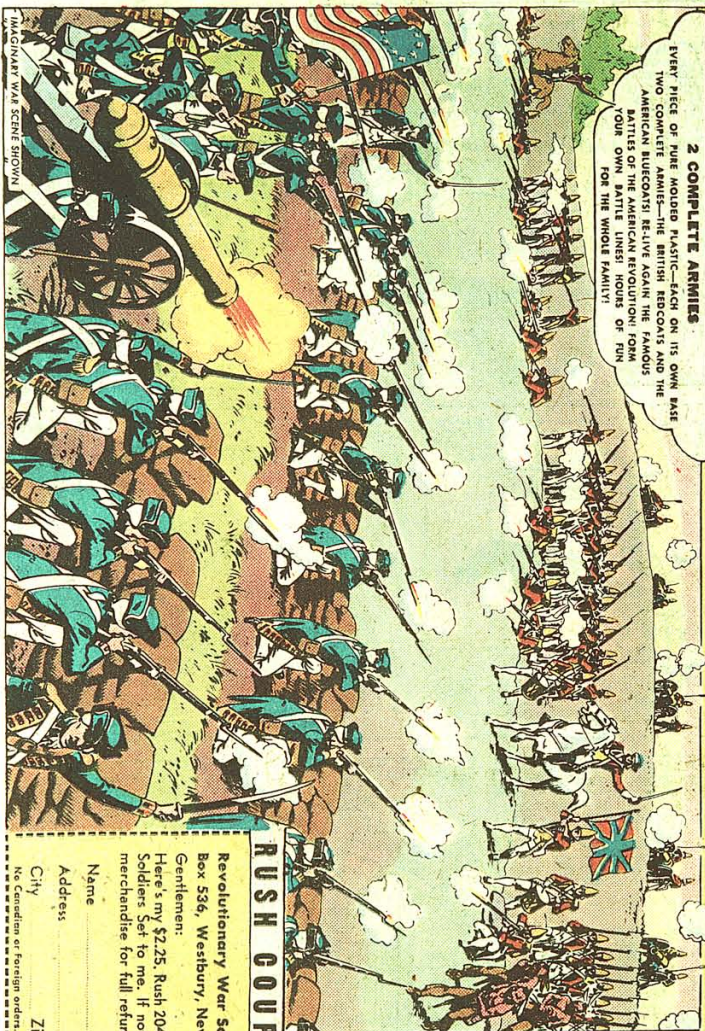


NEXT ISSUE:

THE PULSE-POUNDING PUNISHER RETURNS, IN PURSUIT OF THE MOST ASTONISHING GUEST STAR OF ALL! (OR IS IT THE OTHER WAY AROUND?) BE HERE FOR...

...AND THE NIGHTCRAWLER CAME PROWLING, PROWLING...!

31



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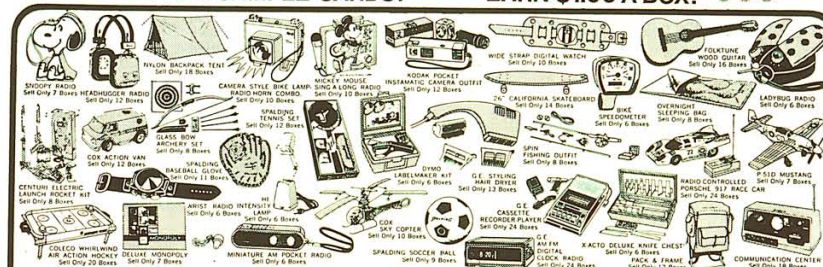
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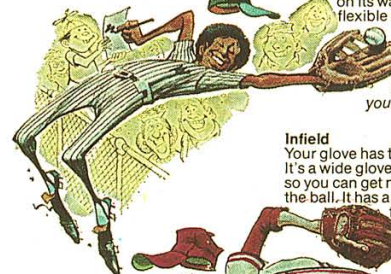
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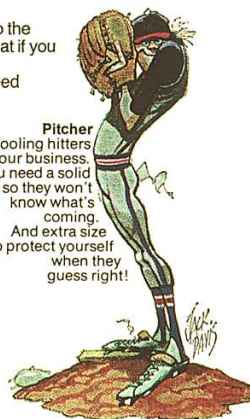
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